



Newsletter

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James Kapaló
University College Cork
SRS President

From the President, April 2024

We are only a few months into 2024 but I am delighted to announce that some of the goals we set ourselves for the year are now in place. One of the key steps that we identified last year in order to consolidate and strengthen SRS going forward was to extend our board to include two new strategically important posts. Following the recent elections, Irina Năstasă-Matei will be joining us as Membership and Working Groups Officer, and Mihai Ghițulescu is our new Social Media Officer.

These two roles will help us to grow our membership, increase our visibility and generate new interest in SRS. Congratulations to Irina and Mihai, welcome to the board. Alongside these two new positions, we also welcome Sergio Glajar and Megan Palmer as our new Graduate Student Representatives. Our transatlantic membership and representation on the board is one of SRS's great strengths, and with our new board members based in Romania, USA and UK we continue to ensure this key aspect of our mission fostering creative collaborations between scholars, institutions and research agendas in Romania and Moldova and across the globe. You can read introductions to our new board members on page 3 of this newsletter. A big thank you to our outgoing Graduate Student Representatives, Emanuel Grec and Alexandra Ciocanel, for your commitment and contribution to SRS over the last two years and also to our search committee Roland Clark, Irina Livezeanu and Constantin Ardeleanu, and to all those who stood in the elections but were not elected this time round (please do consider standing again!). Last but not least, thanks to our membership for participating in the elections – it is great to see democratic participation in action when it is under threat in so many places around the world.

Another of the vitally important steps for the Society this year was to regularise our charity and tax-exempt status in the USA, which is where we are officially registered. Thanks for the truly sterling work of our Treasurer George Andrei, we can report that SRS is now fully registered as a 501(c)3 tax exempt nonprofit organization with 509(a)2 public charity status. What does this mean? Well, as George explained to me, we can now engage in indirect fundraising. For



President's Message

instance, if you use Microsoft Edge or Bing for web browsing you will receive points that can be redeemed, these can be donated to charities. SRS will appear on Microsoft's list of vetted charities and anyone will be able to have Microsoft donate money to SRS in exchange for their points. In addition, of course we can also take direct donations through Zelle (the preferred way to make donations in the United States – for this use our treasurer's email srstreasury@gmail.com), or PayPal, or by the trusted age-old method mailing a check to the SRS Treasurer. We hope that going forward donations will become an important stream of income alongside membership fees – as our ambition grows as a society, so do our outgoings! Any help you can offer SRS will be very gratefully received and please do contact srstreasury@gmail.com or myself directly if you there is a specific aspect of our work you think you might like to support. Direct donations to the SRS are considered charitable contributions.

Looking ahead, the major event on the horizon is our next Triennial conference. We are in the planning stages but can announce that it will be held in 2025 in Cluj-Napoca/Kolozsvár and will be hosted by Babeş-Bolyai University. The conference will mark more than 50 years since the creation of the Society for Romanian Studies and we have chosen a theme, *Voices and Silences*, that will allow us to both celebrate the achievements and advances in Romanian studies of the past five decades but also encourage critical reflection on the purpose and contribution of Romanian Studies in a rapidly changing regional and intellectual context. We look forward to announcing the full call soon, please keep an eye on the website [Voices and Silences](#) for updates.

I would like to end this with a renewed request for members to consider submitting their research for publication in the *Journal of Romanian Studies*, especially with the Spring 2025 issue in mind. The journal is going from strength to strength with a number of important journal indexing applications in progress that will enhance the reach and impact of our scholarship. Full details of the submissions process can be found on the SRS site [here](#). Finally, please do get in touch via email if you would like to get involved with any of our activities in 2024 and beyond.

**James Kapaló, President, Society for Romanian Studies
April 2024**



SRS Elections

In early 2024, the Society for Romanian Studies sent out a call for nominations for two new positions on its Executive Board: a **Membership and Working Groups Officer**, and a **Social Media Officer**. In addition, nominations were opened for two new **Graduate Student Representatives**.

The SRS Elections were held in March 2024, and voting was open to all members in good standing. The following members were elected to the Executive Board — congratulations!

Membership and Working Groups Officer: Irina Nastasă-Matei

Irina Nastasă-Matei is Associate Professor at the University of Bucharest, Political Science Department. PhD in history from Babeş-Bolyai University in Cluj. She is the author of the monograph *Educație, politică și propagandă: Studenți români în Germania nazistă* (2016), co-author of *Cultură și propagandă. Institutul Român în Berlin 1940-1945* (with L. Nastasă-Kovacs, 2018), and co-editor of three volumes of cultural and intellectual history. Forthcoming volumes include *Yiddish Culture in Greater Romania (1918-1940): in the Aftermath of the Empires and Challenged by the National State* (CEU Press, 2024), with Camelia Crăciun, Francisca Solomon, Valentin Săndulescu.

Social Media Officer: Mihai Ghițulescu

Mihai Ghițulescu is a specialist in Romanian political history, focusing on the interwar and post-communist regimes in particular, together with the history of political institutions and electoral systems. He is the author of two monographs: *Organizarea administrativă a statului român modern 1859-1918* (2011) and *Domnie și guvernare: Organizarea și funcționarea instituției guvernului în România (1866-1940)* (2015), as well as a number of book chapters and articles in peer-reviewed journals. He earned his PhD from the University of Craiova in 2011 and has taught there for a number of years, including having served as Head of Department for eight years.

Graduate Student Representatives: Serjio Glajar and Megan Palmer

Serjio Glajar is a first-year PhD student in Religious Studies at the University of Texas at Austin, where he studies interwar Romanian fascism as a political religion that sought to resuscitate medieval and ancient conceptions of divine kingship for an era of mass, electoral politics. He completed a master's degree at UT's Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies, focusing on the work of Nae Ionescu in the interwar period, and obtained a juris doctor from Emory University School of Law.

Megan Palmer is an ESRC doctoral student at the University of Nottingham, supervised by Dr Jonathan Kwan, Professor Elizabeth Harvey, and Dr Klaus Richter (University of Birmingham). Her research uses quantitative and qualitative analysis to examine the interactions between the Transylvanian city of Brașov's informal social networks and its formal local and imperial institutions in the period 1867–1914. She has also worked as a Post Graduate Teaching Assistant at UCL SSEES and is an LSE IDEAS Associate (2021–present) on the Central and South-East Europe Programme.

Journal of Romanian Studies

The [Journal of Romanian Studies](#) is pleased to announce the release of its Spring 2024 edition. Volume 6, Number 1 focuses broadly on nationalism and the significance of place in shaping or reinforcing notions of identity from the interwar period to the present. Many of the contributions examine the movement, either forced or voluntary, of peoples and the conflicts and contestations that arose in borderland regions within or near Romania.

In “The River that Killed and Saved: Illegal Border Crossings of the Dniester to Romania during Collectivization and the Great Soviet Famine (late 1920s–early 1930s),” **Eduard Baidaus** examines the fate of refugees from the Moldavian Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic (MASSR) who escaped across the Dniester river into Romania (the current Republic of Moldova) during Soviet collectivization and the Great Famine. In “Beyond Nationalism and State Authorities: Voices of the Moți Colonists from the Carei Area,” **Răzvan Roșu** also examines the movement of peoples, in this case Romanians who were relocated from the Apuseni Mountains to the Carei area (near the Hungarian–Romanian border) to colonize the region after the establishment of Greater Romania in 1919. Continuing on the topic of refugees, **Bronwyn Cragg**’s “Letters from Exile: Canadian Media, the Romanian Diaspora, and the Legionary Movement” examines Romanian exiles who immigrated to Canada after the Second World War. Through an analysis of media produced by the Romanian diaspora between the 1950s to the 2020s, he explores how political refugees, including former members of the Legionary Movement, sought to shape diaspora culture in Canada. In “The Rise and Fall of the Popular Front of Moldova: The Activities of Local Branches of the Popular Front of Moldova from 1989 to 1992,” **Keith Harrington** focuses on the final years of the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic (MSSR), analyzing local efforts to dismantle Soviet power there. In “Emplacing Eminescu: The Memorial Spatialization of Romania’s National Poet in Urban Street Nomenclature,” **Mihai Rusu** employs a statistical approach to illuminate the spatial dimensions and memorial landscape of Mihai Eminescu, Romania’s “national poet.”

The primary sources edited by **Dumitru Lisnic** and **James A. Kapaló**, drawn from the archive of the Party Committee of Odesa Region and from files of the former KGB of Ukraine, illuminate the competing political projects and the military situation on the left bank of the Dniester in the aftermath of the Bolshevik Revolution and the union of Bessarabia with Romania. Home to diverse populations, including Romanians, Germans, Ukrainians, Jews, and Russians, as the documents reveal, the region was also the site of diverging political, economic, class, and religious interests and allegiances.

The issue includes book reviews by **Roland Clark**, **Andrei Cușco**, **Simona Drăgan**, **Gheorghe Gelu Păcurar**, and **Vladimir Solonari**.



Journal of Romanian Studies



Announcement: From 2024, the print version of the Journal of Romanian Studies will be a single volume containing the two digital issues published during the year. This is part of Liverpool University Press' efforts to reduce environmental impact through a reduction in printing, paper, packaging, and transport. In this way, SRS members will be able to continue to access and enjoy reading the JRS in both digital and print formats, whilst also reducing our environmental footprint.

SRS members receive a complimentary subscription to the journal. If you are interested in taking out an individual or institutional subscription, please write to the publisher at subscriptions@liverpool.ac.uk.

The Journal of Romanian Studies seeks submissions for the spring 2025 issue. The editors will consider:

- original research articles (of up to 10,000 words, including bibliography)
- review articles (of up to 3,000 words, commenting on 2-3 books on a common theme)
- book reviews (of up to 1,000 words)

Please include a title, a 200-word abstract, the text of the article, and a bibliography. Double-space your article and abstract, and do not include your name and affiliation anywhere. Note that we will NOT consider manuscripts that are under review elsewhere or manuscripts that have been previously published (in English or Romanian). To this effect, your email should clearly state that your manuscript is not under review with other journals and has not been previously published. **Authors interested in publishing with the JRS should send manuscripts (of 10,000 words or less) to the journal editors Jill Massino (jmaissino@charlotte.edu) and Narcis Tulbure (narcis.tulbure@fin.ase.ro).** Submissions are considered on a rolling basis.

The biannual, peer-reviewed *Journal of Romanian Studies*, jointly developed by The Society for Romanian Studies and Liverpool University Press, examines critical issues in Romanian studies, linking work in that field to wider theoretical debates and issues of current relevance, and serving as a forum for junior and senior scholars. The journal also presents articles that connect Romania and Moldova comparatively with other states and their ethnic majorities and minorities, and with other groups by investigating the challenges of migration and globalization and the impact of the European Union.



Find PLURAL Forum at
plural.md

The **PLURAL Forum for Interdisciplinary Studies** is a not-for-profit organisation based in the Republic of Moldova. It aims at initiating and carrying out analyses and discussions of phenomena and social issues neglected or distorted in the public space, such as inequality, oppression, identities, cultures, power and ideologies.

Starting from its official registration in 2011, the PLURAL Forum NGO has been involved in a number of externally funded, sponsored and pro bono activities. The academic journal *PLURAL. History, Culture, Society* (published in cooperation with Ion Creangă State Pedagogical University of Moldova) and the PLATZFORMA web portal of social analysis and critique are among its key projects. The PLURAL team also carried out several ambitious research projects and organized a series of significant academic events focusing on education, modernization, oppression and nationalism viewed from social and historical perspectives.

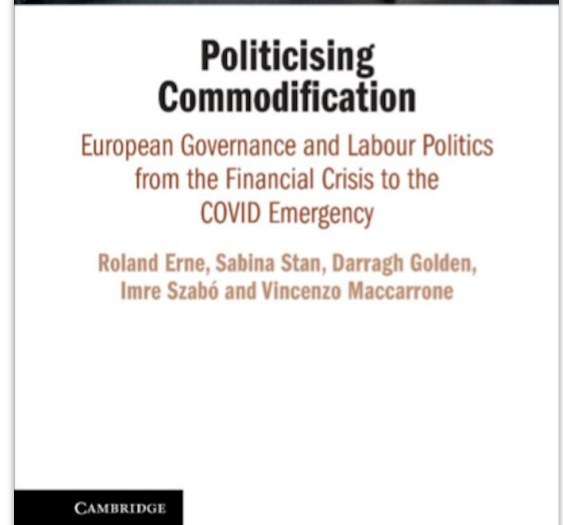
Book Launch

You are invited to the public book launch of *Politicising Commodification: European Governance and Labour Politics from the Financial Crisis to the Covid Emergency*, which will take place in Bucharest, Romania on **21 June 2024, between 10:00–14:00**, in **sala Mircea Eliade at Biblioteca Națională a României**.

The public symposium will feature authors Roland Erne (University College Dublin), Sabina Stan (Dublin City University), Darragh Golden (University College Dublin), and their critics Cornel Ban, Dorothee Bohle, Bela Greskovits, and Martin Seeleib-Kaiser.

This event will be held in English with simultaneous Romanian translation.

For more information about the event and the book, please see the following page, as well as page 36 of this newsletter (“Featured Books”).



Book Launch

Invitation to the public book launch of

Politicising Commodification. European Governance and Labour Politics from the Financial Crisis to the Covid Emergency. Cambridge University Press

Biblioteca Națională a României -

room 'Mircea Eliade', Bulevardul Unirii 22, Bucharest

Friday, 21 June 2024, 10-14:00

BIBLIOTECA
NAȚIONALĂ
A ROMÂNIEI



Politicising Commodification

European Governance and Labour Politics
from the Financial Crisis to the
COVID Emergency

Roland Erne, Sabina Stan, Darragh Golden,
Imre Szabó and Vincenzo Maccarrone

CAMBRIDGE

10:00 Public symposium

with the authors:

Roland Erne University College Dublin (UCD)

Sabina Stan Dublin City University

Darragh Golden UCD, Dublin

and their critics:

Cornel Ban Copenhagen Business School

Dorothee Bohle Universität Wien

Bela Greskovits CEU, Vienna

Martin Seeleib-Kaiser

Universität Tübingen

Intervențiile participanților vor fi în engleză și traduse simultan în română

12:30 Reception

Sponsored by the **Embassy of Ireland in Romania**

RSVP: Sabina.Stan@dcu.ie

Get a free electronic copy of the book here:
<https://www.erc-europeanunions.eu/>



European Research Council
Kotlačková 4, 115 07 Praha 1, Czech Republic



Interview: Svetlana Suveica

In 2023, the Society for Romanian Studies' Book Prize Committee – Camelia Crăciun, Raluca Grosescu, and Cristian Cercel (chair) – agreed unanimously to award the prize to **Svetlana Suveica** for her [*Post-Imperial Encounters: Transnational Designs of Bessarabia in Paris and Elsewhere 1917-1922*](#) (De Gruyter Oldenbourg, 2022).

Suveica's impressive monograph brings up new perspectives on the incorporation of Bessarabia to Romania at the end of the First World War, decidedly moving away from teleological accounts centred on the nationalist ideology underlying narratives about the formation of Greater Romania.



Svetlana Suveica

Winner of the SRS Book Prize, 2023

Please tell us a bit about your academic background.

“I am a historian specializing in East and Southeast European Studies, originally from the Republic of Moldova, currently living and working in Regensburg, Germany. My academic journey began at the Moldova State University in Chişinău during the period of perestroika and the collapse of the Soviet Union. It was during this time that I first encountered post-Ceauşescu Romania and promised myself to go back and study there. I was fortunate to receive a doctoral fellowship from the Romanian government to pursue my PhD at “Al. I. Cuza” University in Iaşi. Following the successful completion of my doctorate, I returned to Moldova State University, where I taught and conducted research for over 15 years. During that time, I had the opportunity to travel abroad for research fellowships, including a Fulbright fellowship at Stanford University in the USA and a Humboldt Fellowship at the Leibniz-Institute for East and Southeast European Studies in Regensburg. Since 2012, I am based in Germany, where I continue to pursue research and teaching. In 2021, I was granted the habilitation degree and *venia legendi* by the University of Regensburg. One aspect that I particularly value in this country is the academic freedom it offers. Universities and research institutions are autonomous spaces where scholars can freely pursue their research interests, engage in exchange with colleagues, access archival materials, and share knowledge with students and peers. This particular environment has allowed me to explore my intellectual curiosity and pursue research.”

You received the SRS Book Prize for your book [*Post-Imperial Encounters: Transnational Designs of Bessarabia in Paris and Elsewhere 1917-1922*](#) (De Gruyter Oldenbourg, 2022). How did you come up with this topic of research? What is your experience working in archives and gathering sources for this book? Did you encounter any difficulties, any surprises, or anything unexpected?

“Living through the transition from the Soviet Union to the independent Moldova was a time of profound change and uncertainty. As a younger generation, we were grappled with the shift from the “old” to the “new”, and filled with dreams about what the future would hold. However, economic constraints made it



Interview: Svetlana Suveica

challenging to envision a prosperous life, also constraining our professional opportunities. Despite the desire of my generation to distance ourselves from the Soviet past, we carried its legacy with us, often without realizing it. Often, we were pointed out where we came from. This was particularly evident in the way Bessarabian students were perceived in Romania, being referred to as “Russians,” while upon returning to Chişinău, they were suddenly labelled “Romanians.” This dichotomy was part of the complex identity struggles we faced during this transitional period. My own experiences during this time made me particularly sensitive to the challenges of transition and sparked my curiosity about how previous generations navigated similar upheavals. In particular, I became interested in understanding how Bessarabians experienced the political transition from the Russian Empire to Greater Romania after World War I, and how they envisioned the future of their native region. I was intrigued by how their visions for Bessarabia influenced their own lives, too.

My journey of exploration was a long and difficult one. While working at the Hoover Institution Archives in Stanford, I uncovered a treasure trove of private correspondence, postcards, and letters written by native Bessarabians. As I meticulously deciphered these documents with the magnifying glass, I pondered the motivations behind their preservation for posterity. It became clear to me that the authors of these letters, who would become the protagonists of my book, sought to ensure that future generations would rediscover, reflect on, and acknowledge the enduring legacy of the Russian empire through their written accounts. Their desire to revive and share their reflections about the fate of Bessarabia after World War I underscores the profound questions that shaped their lives and the region's destiny decades after. The ongoing Russia's war against Ukraine serves as a poignant reminder of the profound impact that war and political upheavals can have on individual and collective senses of identity and belonging. I am pleased that the book was appreciated by the Society of Romanian Studies for its relevance, approach and thorough research. It is always very rewarding to see your work appreciated by readers and reviewers alike.”

You recently published a blog on EHRI on [the fate of Jewish cemeteries in Odessa under the Romanian Occupation \(1941-1944\)](#). Is this publication part of a new research project? How does this research contribute to our understanding of the Holocaust?

“This fresh research delves into the Romanian occupation in Transnistria during WWII, focusing on the theme of war and violence. Drawing from preliminary investigations of post-war Romanian trial files and Securitate archives, I explore the fate of Jewish cemeteries in Odessa from the perspective of the perpetrators. Gherman Pântea (notably highlighted for his role in the 1917–1918 events in Bessarabia in my book, *Post-imperial Encounters*) who served as the mayor of Odessa from 1941 to 1944, surrounded himself with predominantly native Bessarabians who demonstrated their loyalty to the Romanian state and possessed knowledge of local customs, languages, and proximity to the region. The network exploited regional social and political instability and seized every opportunity to profit from looting and bribery in Transnistria. The case study shows how Romanian public employees and commerciants turned the tombstones from the Odessa Jewish cemeteries into commodities for sale and personal enrichment. This



Interview: Svetlana Suveica


sheds new light on the local dynamics of the war and the Holocaust in Transnistria, which was Romania's 'ethnic dumping ground,' to use Alexander Dallin's term.

The fate of Odessan Jewish cemeteries shall be traced in close connection with the destruction of Jews in the Holocaust, carried out by the Axis allies Romanian and Nazi Germany in the region, which resulted in the death of 280,000 to 380,000 Jews as a consequence of mass murder, deportation, typhus, hunger and cold. Moving forward, I plan to investigate Jewish cemeteries in Transnistria as object biographies. Survivors' testimonies reveal that these cemeteries, besides being sites of cultural destruction and enrichment for perpetrators, also served as hiding places and forced labour sites for both Jews and non-Jews. I would like to bring attention to this neglected topic, and thus contribute to regional and international discussions, allowing for connections and comparisons with other cases. Given the ongoing war in Ukraine, the urgency of documenting and preserving Jewish cultural heritage in Ukraine, currently under threat, cannot be overstated."

Do you have any advice for researchers or students interested in embarking into Romanian studies?

"My advice to younger historians would be the advice to my younger self. It is to allow yourself to be guided by the source and approach it with an open mind. Recognize that different sources may offer varying perspectives, so it's crucial to consider them from the author's viewpoint while maintaining a critical distance. Avoid succumbing to the notion of an ultimate 'truth,' often used in East European historiography, as each source presents its own validity and perspective. Embracing this understanding grants you a sense of freedom—the freedom to explore your research interests and methods in your own way. And do not hesitate to reach out to other fellows for assistance when needed. The Society for Romanian Studies has a brilliant cohort of scholars who can offer valuable support and help you navigate the encountered challenges. I believe that embracing this mindset will empower you to navigate your research journey and pursue your career aspirations with confidence."

Interview conducted by Anna Batzeli.



More information about the SRS Book Prize can be found [here](#).

Information about Svetlana Suveica's *Post-Imperial Encounters: Transnational Designs of Bessarabia in Paris and Elsewhere 1917-1922* can be found through [De Gruyter's website](#).





SRS Thematic Working Groups

Beginning in spring 2022, SRS members have set up and run [thematic working groups](#). They are run by convenors, who bring together junior and senior researchers, and organise an online event once a year. The SRS currently has **16 functioning working groups**, of which one is jointly run by the SRS and its partner, the PLURAL Forum for Interdisciplinary Studies, and one by the SRS and Indiana University Bloomington. For further information, please visit the [SRS website](#). To join one or several groups, please contact the convenor(s). In order to become an active group member, you need an [SRS membership](#).

Anthropology

Convenor: [Gerard Weber](#); in search of new convenor. Active members: 4. Events: underway.

Art History

Convenor: Position empty. Active members: 2. Events: underway.

Business and Economics

Convenor: [Rodica-Milena Zaharia](#). Active members: underway. Events: underway.

Cultural Studies

Convenor: [Valeska Bopp-Filimonov](#). Active members: 6.

Events: Virtual book launch for Valentina Glajar's *The Secret Police Dossier of Herta Müller* (Nov. 2023); online discussion about “Mămăligă, zacuscă, and their components. Gastronomic and linguistic myths in Romanian terminology and history of food” (Oct. 2022).

Democracy and Politics

Convenor: [Dana Trif](#). Active members: 5. Events: [Book launch](#) of Svetlana Suveică's *Post-Imperial Encounters. Transnational Designs of Bessarabia in Paris and Elsewhere (1917–1922)* (Oct. 2023, with Interwar History Working Group).

Gender Studies

Convenor: [Maria Bucur](#) (Indiana University Bloomington). Active members: 6.

Events: Lecture: Liliana Ene, “Romii — Reprezentări în artă și pe marile ecrane — Stereotipuri și Prejudecăți” (November 2023); online workshop: “Fragilitatea și puterea femeii în societatea românească contemporană. Două demersuri” (April 2022); online talk: Maria Bucur, “When the Invalids Came Home: Disability in Romania after World War I” (March 2022).

Graduate Students and ECRs

Convenor: [Alexandra Ciocănel](#). Active members: 8. Events: informal Facebook meetings.

Holocaust and the Second World War

Convenors: [Diana Dumitru](#) (PLURAL) and [Grant Harward](#). Active members: 14.

Events: Book presentation on *So They Remember* by Maksim Goldenshteyn (March 2024). Talk on Romanian Military Archeology by Răzvan Bolba (Nov. 2023). Presentation by Dallas Michelbacher on Soviet POWs in Romania (Sept. 2023). Presentation by Olga Stefan on art of the Holocaust in Romania (June 2023). Roundtable on the 80th anniversary of the capitulation of Axis forces in Stalingrad (Feb. 2023).



SRS Thematic Working Groups

Interwar History

Convenor: [Anca Filipovici](#). Active members: 8. Events: [Book launch](#) of Svetlana Suveică's *Post-Imperial Encounters. Transnational Designs of Bessarabia in Paris and Elsewhere (1917–1922)* (Oct. 2023, with Democracy and Politics Working Group).

Law, Memory and Justice

Convenor: [Monica Ciobanu](#) and [Mihaela Șerban](#). Active members: 12. Events: Upcoming volume, tentatively entitled *Between the Memory and Post-Memory of Communism in Romania: Fluid Memories*, to be released with Routledge in late 2024–early 2025.

Literature

Convenor: [Marina Cap-Bun](#). Active members: 4.
Events: Joint discussion on “Academic mentoring for the international dissemination of Romanian Studies” with STUR at Ovidius University, Constanța (April 2023); talk by Amanda L. Andrei: “Graphite to the Bone: Writing the Generational Trauma of a Filipino Romanian Family” (October 2022); Discussion on the work of Mihai Eminescu, Matei Vișniec, and Prof. Christina Zarifopol-Illias (April 2022) — both in-person at Ovidius University of Constanța.

Minorities Studies

Convenor: [Gábor Egry](#) and [László Fosztó](#). Events: underway.

Postwar Politics, History, and Culture

Convenors: [Dragos Petrescu](#) and [Ruxandra Trandafoiu](#). Active members: 4.
Events: secured funding for organizing the second series of lectures in Romanian Studies during the academic year 2023/2024; previous series of lectures within the Master Program in Comparative Politics (MCP) at the University of Bucharest, including those by [Ruxandra Trandafoiu](#) and [Roland Clark](#) (Nov. 2022 onwards).

Pre-1918 History

Convenors and active members: Currently vacant.
Events: [Online panel](#): “Ramificațiile darwinismului. Evoluționism și politici științifice în România, 1859-1918”, discussing the popularization of Darwinist evolutionary theory in Romania between 1859-1918 (Dec. 2022).

Religious Studies

Convenor: [Roland Clark](#). Active members: 7.
Events: [online seminar](#): “the Archangel Michael in Romania”, with presentations of papers from the upcoming volume, *The Archangel Michael Beyond Orthodoxies: Here – There – Everywhere* (ed. Alexandros Tsakos and Marie Steine von der Lippe) — papers presented included those by Roland Clark, James A. Kapaló, Ovidiu Olar, and Emanuela Timotin (Feb. 2023); showcase of Marc Loustau's book, *Hungarian Catholic Intellectuals in Contemporary Romania: Reforming Apostles*, with further discussions by Anca Șincan and Csongor Jánosi on religion in Transylvania (Nov. 2022).

Sociology

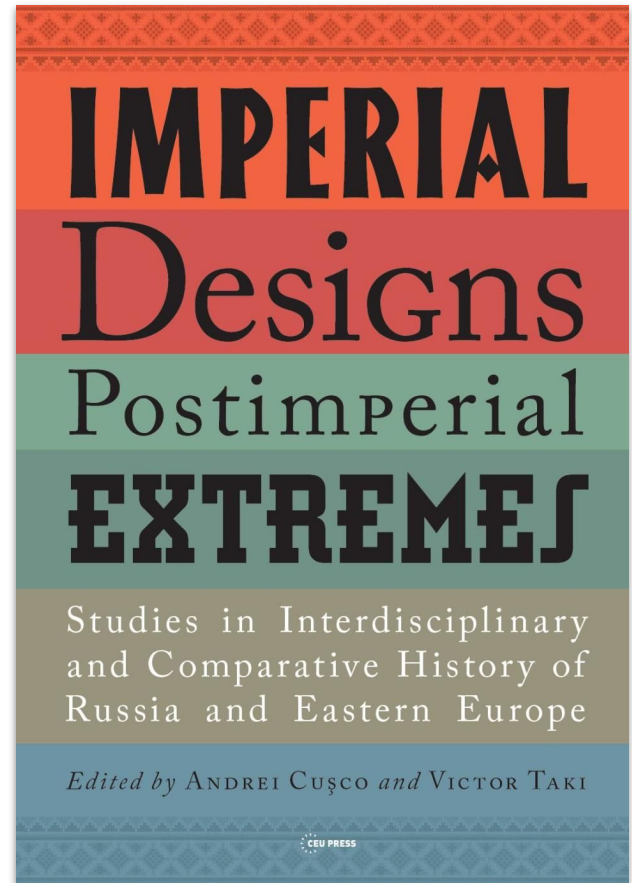
Convenor: [Mihai Rusu](#). Active members: 3. Events: underway.

Imperial Designs, Postimperial Extremes

Andrei Cușco and Victor Taki (eds.), *Imperial Designs, Postimperial Extremes: Studies in Interdisciplinary and Comparative History of Russia and Eastern Europe* (Budapest: CEU Press, 2023)

This volume, composed of eight studies, explore the nineteenth-century imperial responses to the challenge of modernity, the dramatic disruptions of World War I, the radical scenarios of the interwar period and post-communist endgames at the different edges of Eurasia.

In the wake of its release through CEU Press in 2023, editors Andrei Cușco and Victor Taki answered a few questions about their work and the volume for the Society for Romanian Studies newsletter.



Please tell us a bit about your work. What disciplines, themes, ideas, and contexts are you principally concerned with? What projects are you working on now?

Andrei Cușco: “After defending my PhD in 2008, my research interests converged around the field of empire studies, with a special emphasis on the comparative history of the modern Eurasian empires. My expertise mostly covers the Russian Empire (including topics such as Russian intellectual history during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the history of Bessarabia as a province of the Russian Empire (1812-1917) and the Russian-Romanian borderlands during World War I). However, I am keenly interested in the inter-imperial entanglements, mutual perceptions, and various interactions within the larger space of the Eastern European *shatterzone of empires* (Bartov/Weitz) between the Russian, Habsburg, and Ottoman states during the ‘long nineteenth century.’ Previously, I have written on the history of imperial contested borderlands, using Bessarabia as a case study and as an opportunity to discuss the wider implications of various empire- and nation-building projects in Eastern Europe. Currently, my research focus has partially shifted towards the topic of Russian-Romanian relations and mutual perceptions during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. My current research project, dealing with ethnic mobilization and total war in the Russian-Romanian-Habsburg borderlands of Bessarabia and Bukovina between 1914 and 1919, aims to contribute to the wider debate on the connection between large-scale warfare, modernity, strategies of governance, state-building and state collapse.”



Imperial Designs, Postimperial Extremes

Viktor Taki: “Initially interested in the history of modern political thought, I turned to Russian history only after becoming a doctoral student at CEU. Comparative history of Eurasian empires was my early thematic focus, while my doctoral project explored the interaction between the elites of the Romanian provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia and the tsarist commanders and diplomats during the Russian-Ottoman wars. In parallel, I became interested in the subject of imagined geographies. Thus, my post-doctoral project was devoted to the perceptions and representations of the Ottoman Empire in the accounts of Russian diplomats, officers, captives, and prisoners-of-war from the early modern period to the middle of the nineteenth century. My latest book project examines Russia’s recurrent wars with the Ottoman Empire that offer an important and hitherto largely neglected angle on the genesis of the total war of the twentieth century. My contribution to the current volume is actually an earlier version of a chapter from my most recent book published by University of Toronto Press.”

Imperial Designs, Postimperial Extremes contains extremely diverse contributions both geographically and chronologically. What was your experience in editing this book? Did you encounter any difficulties, or anything unexpected?

AC + VT: “Despite its wide range of topics and broad geographical scope, editing this volume was easy for us, because we all had a common dimension from the outset - all of us were doctoral students of Al Rieber and graduates of CEU History Department. This common background and formative experience provided the main thread of the volume. And then, we also tried to strike a balance between shared approaches and individual research interests. In contrast to some other, thematic, volumes that provide a snapshot of the ongoing work of their contributors, our project also allows tracing the evolution of historiography over several decades. On the one hand, our (and the other contributors’) individual research builds on and expands the different aspects of Al Rieber’s exceptionally long and fruitful career. In this sense, we are arguably justified to speak about a historiographic “momentum,” as we do in the volume’s introduction. This effect is further amplified by the participation in our project of both the first and one of the most recent graduates of the CEU doctoral program in history (Marina Loskutova, 1999, and Andriy Posunko, 2018, respectively).

We would also like to emphasize that, whereas edited volumes are typically the product of thematic conferences, our book emerged out of a synergy reflective of our ‘common academic origin,’ of an intellectual affinity bred by a specific environment. Current historiography is no longer defined by major ‘schools’ or currents (the *Annales* School of course comes to mind as the paradigmatic example). However, we still think that such intellectual communication based on shared intellectual origins can be an important supplement to the thematic approach. While collecting (and selecting) the texts that made it into the volume, we did not follow preordained thematic criteria. Rather, the major topics reflected in the book – the focus on various facets of the ‘imperial Russian project’, including the emphasis on interest groups and on the empire’s social categories, coupled with the preoccupation for ‘complex frontiers,’ inter-imperial rivalry, population politics and (forced) migration – also test the limits of comparison and might hopefully stimulate the ‘collective conscience’ of scholars dealing with our broader region.”



Imperial Designs, Postimperial Extremes

What advice can you offer for young scholars interested in the History of Russia and Eastern Europe? What do you identify as the greatest challenges facing young scholars in these fields?

AC + VT: “Our field is increasingly polarized between calls for epistemological ‘decolonization’ and the ‘de-centering’ of Russian studies, on the one hand, and the persistence of long-held assumptions and entrenched clichés, on the other. Under these circumstances, it is essential to keep the balance between a critical approach to our subject matter and a capacity for dialogue. It is no less important to avoid a ‘black-and-white’ perspective on a past increasingly used for political purposes and to embrace its complexity, rather than trying to simplify it. In other words, any kind of essentialism – be it national, (geo)political, or methodological – should be avoided at all costs. This does not mean succumbing to epistemological relativism, postmodern ‘nihilism’, or, worse, to a ‘post-truth’ approach. It does entail, however, the clear rejection of any reifying tendencies and a capability for discerning the categories of practice (structuring our everyday thought) and the categories of analysis we use to make sense of the world. Constantly questioning these categories – and our own self-reflection while doing it – seems a rather sensible strategy to pursue as an aspiring academic.

We would also recommend the younger scholars to approach the past of the country or region that they study from the point of view of what was plentiful and abundant in it, rather than in terms of what was rare and scarce. It is important for a young scholar to avoid the pitfall of “inventing” the subject that he or she is interested in, and to also avoid projecting the current priorities, preoccupations and values upon the people of the past. Instead, the priorities and preoccupations of these people of the past should be the starting point. In this sense it is worth remembering that ‘the past is another country,’ and that this country should be analyzed on its own, rather than on our present-day, terms.”

Interview conducted by Anna Batzeli.

Imperial Designs, Postimperial Extremes
was released by CEU Press in 2023.

More information about the volume can be found
[here](#).



Interview: Silvia Marton

Silvia Marton is Associate Professor at the University of Bucharest's Faculty of Political Science, and an Alumna of New Europe College. In 2023, Marton was awarded an European Research Council (ERC) Advanced Grant for her project "Transnational histories of 'corruption' in Central-South-East Europe (1750-1850)".

Tell us about yourself and your involvement with New Europe College (NEC).

"I pursued my university studies at the Faculty of Political Science at the University of Bucharest, where I have been teaching since 2001. The faculty provided me with a solid scientific base that I was able to deepen later, towards more interdisciplinarity, thanks to doctoral and postdoctoral stays in European universities. In this way my research was opened to complementary academic disciplines and subfields, such as intellectual history, political science, or historical sociology.

My research career is closely related to New Europe College (NEC). Twenty years ago, I was an NEC scholar, and since 2009 NEC has hosted the "Reflection Group on the Political and Social History of the 18th and 19th Centuries (GRiPs)", an interdisciplinary workshop that I coordinate together with Constanța Vintilă. Our monthly meetings have especially encouraged young researchers to present their academic research in the very conducive framework of NEC, wherein the most courageous academic projects become part of a solid dialogue between scientific disciplines. Members of this group have won numerous grants for research projects, such as grants from UEFISCDI (the Romanian governmental funding agency), the European Research Council (ERC), and others. Generally, NEC-hosted workshops, conferences, and research groups force you to formulate your ideas in a way that is easily understood by others. This is extraordinarily important in a country where the community surrounding an academic discipline is still small and fragmented. More so than the universities, NEC has managed to reintegrate some of the Romanian researchers trained in other countries. NEC has contributed decisively to the evolution of the humanities and social sciences in Romania, in a way that few other institutions have managed to do."

You are a highly-educated person who has successfully navigated several cultures. What advice do you have for young researchers from Europe or North America who are interested in studying the region? What suggestions would you offer Romanian students who would like more visibility for their research and academic projects?

"Nowadays, the academic differences between young Romanian researchers and those from other European countries or North America are minor compared to those we felt 20 or 30 years ago. Individual trajectories are comparable. The difference is rather in the institutional capacity of universities and research institutions in Romania. That would be my first observation. The second is that for any research, intellectual networks are essential, and it's something that we used to navigate on our own, freshly out of university. Research visibility comes from mobility and insertion in transnational research networks. That is why both funding and institutional support of universities are so important for building these networks, because they do not appear out of thin air..."



Silvia Marton
Associate Professor,
University of Bucharest



Interview: Silvia Marton

...When there is a transparent and sustainable framework to support these efforts, the rewards are obvious. Plus, most topics are multidisciplinary and transnational, and so any team-backed approach is stronger and deeper than individual efforts.

I would also advise foreign researchers not to be discouraged too quickly by the opacity of archives or some libraries.”

In a precarious economic context wherein funding for culture, education, and research is plummeting, and the academic system operates under the aegis of "publish or perish", how do you see the future of the higher education system in Romania? What should be done for Romanian universities to be competitive?

“Universities and different research institutes in Romania still support the careers of young researchers less than they should, and far less than some university centers abroad do. If they could give up unnecessary bureaucracy, untrained administrative staff, and non-transparent hierarchies or power stakes, Romanian universities would become much friendlier environments and help develop important research careers. Of course, there is a need for increased university and research funding. However, not everything comes down to money. In Romanian universities, we too often encounter internal governance that is not yet ready to interact with the international academic world in all that daily and long-term research means (libraries equipped with adequate research infrastructure, inter-university support, internal and international cooperation, etc.). Obviously, the Ministry of Education and Research does not take its missions seriously enough either, so our potential remains undeveloped.

Romanian universities are already quite competitive, but competitiveness validates above all — paradoxically and unfortunately — successes achieved at the international level. For example, universities discount holders of their own degrees in favor of degrees obtained at universities abroad (when it comes to employment, for example). Sure, there is a practice in American universities (not exclusively) of not hiring professors with a doctorate degree in the same university, but in Romania we have a different logic which is less transparent and borderline self-colonizing.

The major problem is that there are no solid-enough criteria to be able to validate researchers from Romanian institutions and their research results. CNATCDU's scientometric scores, which differ by field, have somewhat contributed in recent years to separating pseudo-research from solid research, but they have unfortunately also validated the idea that to evaluate someone's research and career you must refer exclusively to foreign magazines and publications on the lists put together by the Ministry of Education and Research. Under these conditions, internal dialogue becomes (almost) useless, and this undermines the exchange of ideas within academic communities, the circulation of ideas and substantial mutual evaluation (peer-review). The problem is that, if you subcontract research evaluations to journal scores and coefficients, sooner or later they can be manipulated: if a researcher publishes 10 articles a year in obscure journals or publishers, but they exist on the list drawn up by the Ministry, then it means that weak content can be compensated for by mechanically-obtained points. There is also the issue that researchers who have published books through major European publishers and who are inserted into national and international research networks, end up being active under the same institutional umbrella as notorious plagiarists with careers in political parties, and others who have not published anything for years.”



Interview: Silvia Marton

You recently won an ERC grant for a very interesting project, "Transnational histories of 'corruption' in Central-South-East Europe (1750-1850)". Can you tell us more about it?

“Various contemporary accounts of the ‘new democracies’ of Central and South-Eastern Europe perpetuate the widespread stereotype of the cultural-backwardness and economic underdevelopment of this region, and its gap with the West due to corruption and the practices associated with it today, such as nepotism and favoritism, clientelism, bribery, electoral fraud, embezzlement of public funds, conflicts of interest, etc. We can even find such cultural and normative correlations and causalities that tell us, in scientific works, that in this part of Europe corruption is endemic, and that this situation is due to irreparable historical and cultural legacies.

The starting point for this project was the desire to dismantle these stereotypes. The essentialization of ‘corrupt’ behaviors as specific to some groups and even some regions in the name of a so-called universal ideal of probity and integrity does nothing but translate the scale of values, historically-situated, of those who make the claims of universality and who also propose ‘remedies’ of universal value to eradicate corruption. A crypto-colonial reading of the power and dependence relations between the continent's regions is thus perpetuated.

We subscribe to research from the constructivist paradigm, which says that the notions and practices that historical actors attribute to corruption change their meaning according to historical moments and social contexts, that they are historically-constructed (and that, therefore, they are ahistorical and not normatively predefined), and that they differ from one society to another. What is interesting is to try to understand internally and through the lens of historical actors the way they define, in different historical periods and socio-political contexts, what is acceptable in politics and in society, the way they build the values and ideals by which they denounce that which is contrary to their own expectations of probity or fairness. The ERC project approaches corruption as a historical product of the judgment of historical actors and as the result of ever-changing critical discourses and debates, which denounce the exercise of power, leaders or institutions, and techniques of influence that they consider immoral or contrary to general interest. In short, there is no ‘corruption’ unless contemporaries talk about it, criticize it, evaluate it, or judge it from a moral, political, or criminal point of view.

Historically-situated ‘corruption’ controversies are a gateway to a better understanding of the public norms and values of a period and a society, as well as the tensions that arise between normative ideals and the practices of historical actors. They are a gateway to understanding modernization and the processes associated with it (such as the construction of nation states, parliamentarism, bureaucratization, urbanization, exclusionary policies, etc.). In this way, they allow us to reevaluate Central and South-Eastern Europe as a periphery, but also to question the orientalizing or even self-orientalizing discourses of ‘backwardness’ that have traditionally characterized this region.

This is, very briefly, the research agenda of the project ‘Transnational histories of 'corruption' in Central-South-East Europe (1750-1850) (TransCorr)’, generously funded by the European Research Council Advanced Grant (within the HORIZON program) and hosted by NEC. For five years (2023–2028), reputable researchers and multinational team members, with solid research experience in the region, helped by young postdoctoral and doctoral researchers, will (re)construct the history of the idea of ‘corruption’ in Central and South-East Europe amid the rise of modernity (1750–1850). We will show how, in the context of new ideas about governance, economy, and society emanating from Western Europe, regional leaders reformulated several traditional customs and practices as corrupt...



Interview: Silvia Marton

...We will examine how the Great Powers' attempts to transform these frontier areas into formal and informal imperial provinces further reinforced new conceptions of 'corruption', often pejoratively associating them with the Ottoman legacy. We will work within the broader transnational turn happening in historical and social-scientific research. We will do this by looking at networks that go beyond the region as well as focusing on micro-histories within this framework.

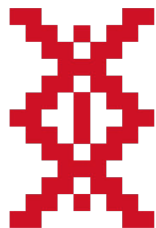
Research is not done in isolation but through long-term collaborations. That is why I stressed above how important the stimulating scientific framework that an institute of advanced study like the NEC so generously provides has been and continues to be for me and for many of us. Without the institutional support of the NEC and, above all, without the friendship and intellectual complicity of Constantin Ardeleanu, Andrei-Dan Sorescu, Alex R. Tipei and Constanța Vintilă — all of whom are very active in the field of Romanian Studies — this project would not have been successful. For 30 years, the NEC has been doing everything possible, with its characteristic elegance and efficiency, to ensure that research is carried out in the best possible conditions.”

Interview conducted by Ruxandra Canache.



Resurse.net Prize

[Resurse.net](https://resurse.net) is a website that aims to provide links to useful internet resources relevant to the field of Romanian studies.



resurse.net

As of 2024, it has launched the [Resurse.net Best Article Prize](#), granted every year to one junior researcher in the field of history, the social sciences, or other humanities. It is intended for persons under 40 years of age.

The prize will be awarded for the **best article or book chapter on Romanian nationalism/fascism, 1866-1947**. Applications can be submitted to contact@resurse.net every year between **1 February and 31 March**. The winner will be announced before **1 May**. The prize amounts to 300 EUR net.



DiFMOE Digitization Project

Historical German-language newspapers from interwar Romania

Report submitted by **Dr. Albert Weber**
(Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies)
Contact: weber@ios-regensburg.de

Newspapers, journals, and yearbooks constitute an exceedingly diverse and rich source material for research. They provide nearly real-time, insightful perspectives into the unfolding of historical events in political, cultural, and economic spheres. Furthermore, they document the flow of information, debates, and discourses. This is particularly true for smaller ethnic and religious communities, such as the German minorities in Eastern Europe, where the press served as a platform for articulating their distinct identity politics, differentiating themselves from the majority society.

The Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies (Regensburg, Germany), in collaboration with the Digital Forum Central and Eastern Europe (Digitales Forum Mittel- und Osteuropa, Munich, Germany), has undertaken a digitization project of two of the most important German-language newspapers from interwar Romania: the *Banater Zeitung* (Timișoara, 1925–1941) and the *Siebenbürgisch-Deutsches Tageblatt* (Sibiu, 1874–1941).

The first title was founded as a German-nationalist competitor to the liberal *Temesvarer Zeitung*. Due to its high journalistic standards and its strong advocacy for the national concerns of the German minority, which led to high subscription numbers, it became one of the most important German-language newspapers in the country.

The *Siebenbürgisch-Deutsches Tageblatt*, founded under the Habsburg Monarchy, was the first Transylvanian Saxon daily newspaper of international journalistic standard. The newspaper catered to all German-speaking



DiFMOE Digitization Project



citizens of the Kingdom of Hungary. Initially, it followed the political principles of the so-called Old Saxons and advocated for the minority rights of Germans from the Hungarian Kingdom, thus coming into conflict with the government-aligned newspapers. Due to a significantly grown readership, it became the most important newspaper and mouthpiece for the Transylvanian Saxons in Hungary and later in Romania. During World War I, it was also briefly published in Budapest under the title *Bukarester Tagblatt*, with a focus on economic policy. On March 16, 1941, it merged with the *Banater Deutsche Zeitung* and other Romanian-German daily newspapers into the *Südostdeutsche Tageszeitung* (1941–1944), a mouthpiece for National Socialist propaganda.

Both newspapers, serving as historical documents for the Transylvania and Banat regions, are now freely accessible and full-text searchable on www.difmoe.eu, thereby enriching the expanding collection of newspapers featured on this portal.

The digitization was fully funded by the German Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and Media.

Digitized copies of the *Banater Deutsche Zeitung* can be accessed [here](#).

Digitized copies of the *Siebenbürgisch-Deutsches Tageblatt* are available [here](#).



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We would like to thank Narcis Tulbure for his work as Assistant Editor on the SRS-Polirom book series for the past several years. We are pleased to welcome Cristian Cercel to our team.

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- Roland Clark, *Sfântă tinerețe legionară. Activismul fascist în România interbelică*. Ediția a II-a (2024)
- Emanuela Grama, *Centrul Vechi din București. Politică și patrimoniu* (2023) — WINNER OF THE 2020 ED A HEWETT BOOK PRIZE offered by the ASSOCIATION FOR SLAVIC, EAST EUROPEAN, AND EURASIAN STUDIES (ASEEES)
- Cristian Cercel, *Filogermanism fără germani. România în căutarea europenității* (2021) — WINNER OF THE 2022 OBSERVATOR CULTURAL BOOK AWARD
- Maria Bucur, *Eroi și victime. România și memoria celor două războaie mondiale* (2019)
- Diana Dumitru, *Vecini în vremuri de restriște. Stat, antisemitism și Holocaust în Basarabia și Transnistria* (2019)
- Cristina Vățulescu, *Cultură și poliție secretă în comunism* (2018) — Winner of the 2011 Barbara Heldt Prizes, sponsored by the Association for Women in Slavic Studies; Winner of the 2011 Outstanding Academic Title Award, sponsored by Choice.
- Lavinia Stan & Diane Vancea, coord., *România postcomunistă: trecut, prezent, viitor* (2017)
- Alex Drace-Francis, *Geneza culturii române moderne. Instituțiile scrisului și dezvoltarea identității naționale, 1700-1900* (2016)
- Vladimir Solonari, *Purificarea națiunii: dislocări forțate de populație și epurări etnice în România lui Ion Antonescu, 1940-1944* (2015)
- Roland Clark, *Sfântă tinerețe legionară. Activismul fascist în România interbelică* (2015) — WINNER OF THE 2017 SOCIETY FOR ROMANIAN STUDIES (SRS) BOOK AWARD

RECENTLY PUBLISHED:

Emanuela Grama's *Centrul vechi din București. Politică și patrimoniu*, translated by Justina Bandol, June 2023. The Romanian edition includes new sections based on additional archival materials.

“Based on archival and ethnographic research, the volume brings to light lesser-known episodes from the history of this neighborhood, starting from negotiations among architects, archaeologists, and the communist government about the heritage value of the area, up to its more recent transformation into a tourist brand, under the name 'historic center.' But the book is not just a monograph of a place. It is also an attempt to better understand how various urban changes have reflected social and attitudinal changes; which histories have mattered and which have been forgotten; which aesthetic and urban visions have prevailed and which have disappeared; which social and professional groups have managed to impose

their values and under what conditions. In other words, which narratives, objects, aesthetic forms, and lifestyles become valued as heritage—and which of them are marginalized, abandoned, or destroyed.” **Emanuela Grama**



”Volumul Emanuelei Grama pornește de la teza de doctorat a autoarei susținută la Universitatea Michigan din Statele Unite. Reconstituirea istorică se amestecă aici cu ancheta socială, încît tonul academic se transformă – uneori în aceeași pagină – în relatare subiectivă de la locul faptei. Emanuela Grama iubește Bucureștiul și simți că o irită cei ce încearcă să-l fardeze convenabil, dintr-un patriotism de mucava sau, mai rău, să-și justifice păcate de neiertat comise din oportunism, din convingere ori din ticăloasă prostie, în anii '50 sau mai tîrziu.” **Cristian Teodorescu, Cațavencii**

”Un studiu aprofundat și extrem de atent elaborat, ce acoperă mult mai multe zone de interes, de oriunde am porni lectura noastră, printr-un București istoric-cultural-arhitectural, nu în ultimul rînd ideologico-politic, este intitulat, sec, *Centrul vechi din București. Politică și patrimoniu* (Editura Polirom, 2023, traducere din limba engleză de Justina Bandol). [...] [Cartea de față] abordează, analizează și comentează cu multă finețe mult mai multe subiecte decît cel cuprins în titlul care poate păcăli. Căci, plecînd de la formula „centrul vechi” al Bucureștilor, pătrundem nu doar în istoria – de ieri și mai aproape de noi, pînă azi – unei întregi țesături urbane, ci și a locuitorilor ei. O vastă umanitate, ce se perindă sub ochii noștri, din vremea fanarioșilor și epoca lui Manuc Bey la cei care au vrut să transforme un oraș de cîmpie într-o metropolă socialistă. Arheologia și-a dat mîna cu ideologia, arhitecții s-au confruntat mereu cu decidenții politici. Capitalism, socialism, de fiecare dată orașul și oamenii au fost la cheremul decidenților politici. O extrem de laborioasă cercetare istorică, cu inserturi de antropologie, ce se coagulează într-un excelent eseu despre ceea ce a însemnat și înseamnă un oraș în conștiința unei națiuni.” **Cristina Manole, Observator Cultural**

SRS-Polirom Book Series

RECENTLY PUBLISHED:

Roland Clark's updated second edition of ***Sfântă tinerețe legionară: Activismul fascist în România interbelică***, Iași, 2024, has just been published by Polirom and is already in bookstores.

"In *Holy Legionary Youth*, Roland Clark approaches Romanian fascism by asking what membership in the Legion meant to young Romanian men and women. Viewing fascism "from below," as a social category that had practical consequences for those who embraced it, he shows how the personal significance of fascism emerged out of Legionaries' interactions with each other, the state, other political parties, families and friends, and fascist groups abroad. Official repression, fascist spectacle, and the frequency and nature of legionary activities changed a person's everyday activities and relationships in profound ways. [...] Approaching fascism in interwar Romania as an everyday practice, *Holy Legionary Youth* offers a new perspective on European fascism, highlighting how ordinary people "performed" fascism by working together to promote a unique and totalizing social identity. **(From the Cornell University Press web page)**



"Roland Clark's *Holy Legionary Youth* is a truly remarkable book. ... Without detracting from the movement's criminal nature, Clark's book brings to our attention their sincere idealism and thirst for spiritual fulfillment. In this way, he helps us better understand not only this movement's appeal in the interwar and World War II periods but also the endurance of Legionaries' myth in Romania today." **Vladimir Solonari, University of Central Florida**

"In a field progressively dominated by a tendency to over-theorize what fascism is or is not, it is refreshing to read an assessment of what fascists did and how they lived in a country like Romania. The outcome is an excellent, carefully researched and well-written monograph that adds a much needed nuance to current scholarship." **Marius Turda, Oxford Brookes University**

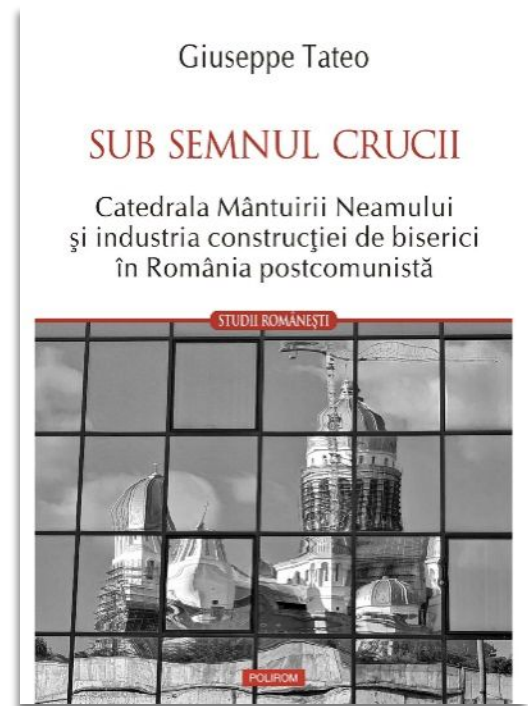
"Clark's book is a fresh, reflexive, witty, and well-documented exploration of the Legion of the Archangel Michael, the central fascist movement in interwar Romania, in its own context, doubled by an attempt to approach Romanian ultranationalism on its own terms." **Cosmin Sebastian Cercel, Ghent University**

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IN PRODUCTION:

Giuseppe Tateo's *Sub semnul crucii. Catedrala Mântuirii Neamului și industria construcției de biserici în România postcomunistă* (New York: Berghahn, 2020), translated into Romanian by Maria-Magdalena Anghelescu, will appear in our series in early 2024.

“Based on extensive ethnographic research, this book delves into the thriving industry of religious infrastructure in Romania, where 4,000 Orthodox churches and cathedrals have been built in three decades. Following the construction of the world’s highest Orthodox cathedral in Bucharest, the book brings together sociological and anthropological scholarship on eastern Christianity, secularization, urban change and nationalism. Reading postsocialism through the prism of religious change, the author argues that the emergence of political, entrepreneurial and intellectual figures after 1990 has happened ‘under the sign of the cross.’” *(From the publisher’s web page)*



“The book is an ethnographic research of a construction project rather than of the organizational developments of the Romanian Orthodox Church. Nevertheless, one may endorse that it sheds light on the main crucial strategies pursued by the Romanian Orthodox Church for its organizational revival over the past three decades. While this multifaceted institutional pattern has enabled the Romanian Orthodox Church to expand its hegemony in Romanian society, the book masterly describes how it is requiring a novel social legitimation for addressing the growing anticlerical stances.” **Marco Guglielmi, *Religion and Society: Advancements in Research***

“Giuseppe Tateo’s book is an important contribution to the recent history of the Romanian Orthodox Church and its current crisis in a slowly secularizing Romania. His case study — elaborating on the People’s Salvation Cathedral, the church-building projects, and the multiplication of crosses in the country — represents three elements from a large set of strategies of space sacralization, the re consecration of civic life and space, and the ideological and political power dynamics of the Romanian Orthodox Church after 1990. Combining the sociology of religion, space theory, cultural anthropology, and church history, Tateo’s book serves as an important example of a transdisciplinary approach in the academic study of religions in Central-Eastern Europe.” **Csaba Szabó, *Religion and Society in Central and Eastern Europe***

“Drawing upon detailed ethnographical research, leavened with an impressive command of theoretical literature on the social life of architecture and urban special symbolism, the author examines the development of religious infrastructure in Romania [...]. At the same time, Tateo’s book offers an analysis of secularization and urban change, and their impact upon the course of nationalism in the country. [...] In reading postsocialism through the lens of religious practice, the author argues that political and cultural discourse has been conducted ‘under the sign of the cross’” **Dennis Deletant, *UCL SSEES***

FORTHCOMING:

Mariana Hausleitner's *Eine Atmosphäre von Hoffnung und Zuversicht. Hilfe für verfolgte Juden in Rumänien, Transnistrien und Nordsiebenbürgen 1940-1944* (Berlin: Lukas Verlag, 2020) is being translated and is expected to appear in Romanian in 2024.

“During World War II, Romania was an ally of the German Reich. The spectrum of Jewish persecution in Romanian-controlled territories was broad, ranging from legislative measures to disenfranchisement and expropriation, from pogroms to deportations and mass murder. However, a few courageous people from a variety of social classes came to the aid of these oppressed people. This book introduces these often anonymous helpers who risked their lives to German readers for the first time.” **(From the publisher's web page)**



“When it comes to the Holocaust in Romania, Mariana Hausleitner has been, for the last three decades, the most productive researcher in the German-language space. [...] With *Eine Atmosphäre von Hoffnung und Zuversicht*, Mariana Hausleitner has written, again, a standard work that is also of interest to a broader readership. Lukas Verlag has spared no effort in publishing a book with a clear layout, rich illustrations, and many useful maps. Hausleitner's important text was thus cast into a very reader-friendly form.” **Simon Geissbühler, *Jahrbücher für osteuropäische Geschichte***

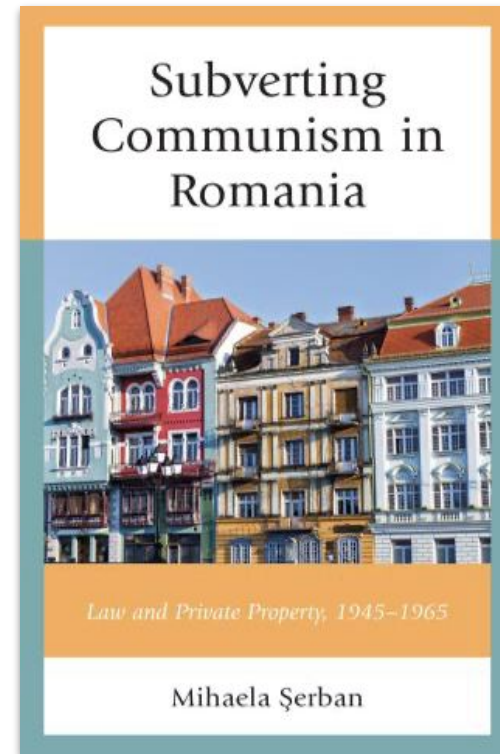
“In ten short chapters, the author analyses numerous cases of the attitude towards Jews and the course of rescue operations - mostly little-known episodes of the Holocaust - based on numerous archival sources, diaries, correspondence, memoirs and available research literature. The cases have been reconstructed in the regional context of Romania and of its eastern and western border areas. [...] The book clearly shows that those people who wanted to help the Jews did so despite all difficulties and danger to their lives. The rescuers took advantage of all the leeway they had (and created an atmosphere of hope and confidence among the Jews). The rescue operations, presented by the author as life sequences in which the fates of rescuers and victims are entangled, bring to the fore the characteristics of social-moral resistance and encourage reflection on the role of chance and contingency in the history of the Holocaust.” **Svetlana Suveică, *Südost-Forschungen***

SRS-Polirom Book Series

FORTHCOMING:

Mihaela Șerban's *Subverting Communism in Romania: Law and Private Property 1945–1965* (Lanham: Lexington Books, 2019) is expected to appear in Romanian in the fall of 2024.

“*Subverting Communism in Romania* explores the role of law in everyday life and as a mechanism for social change during early communism in Romania. Mihaela Serban focuses on the regime’s attempts to extinguish private property in housing through housing nationalization and expropriation. This study of early communist law illustrates that law is never just an instrument of state power, particularly over the long term and from a ground up perspective. Even during its most totalitarian phase, communist law enjoyed a certain level of autonomy at the most granular level and consequently was simultaneously a space of state power and resistance to power.” **(From the publisher’s web page)**



“Mihaela Șerban argues that the nationalization of urban housing in early communist Romania offers a unique view into the strategies deployed by the new communist regime to consolidate its power. Drawing on a rich collection of archival material, which Șerban discovered in the regional archives of Timișoara in western Romania, the book tells a very important story. This is a story of negotiation of power, capital, and the economic and symbolic value of houses as a particular form of property. ... Șerban draws on a wide range of theories as well as meticulous research, grounded in a critical reading of the laws dealing with nationalization, as well as a vast collection of case studies, revealing an incredible array of life histories captured by hundreds of petitions. She offers us not only a sharp and very well-written history of the uses and abuses of law in early communist Romania, but also the most detailed and theoretically sophisticated account of the nationalization process in Romania (published so far).” **Emanuela Grama, Carnegie Mellon University**

“Mihaela Șerban makes a compelling argument that communist legality in socialist East and Central Europe should be equally understood as an instrument of state repression and a space for continuity, accommodation, and subversion. This argument is sustained by a rich documentation of historical and archival sources and interviews relating to the nationalization and expropriation of housing in the Banat region of Romania during the first two decades of the communist regime between 1945- 1965. [...] The monograph has broader implications for the complex relationships between any legal system and its subjects in a non-democratic society. Its sophisticated conceptual approach makes it an important source for a large academic audience including scholars of socialism and post-socialism, of law and society and of transitional justice.” **Monica Ciobanu, State University of New York at Plattsburgh**

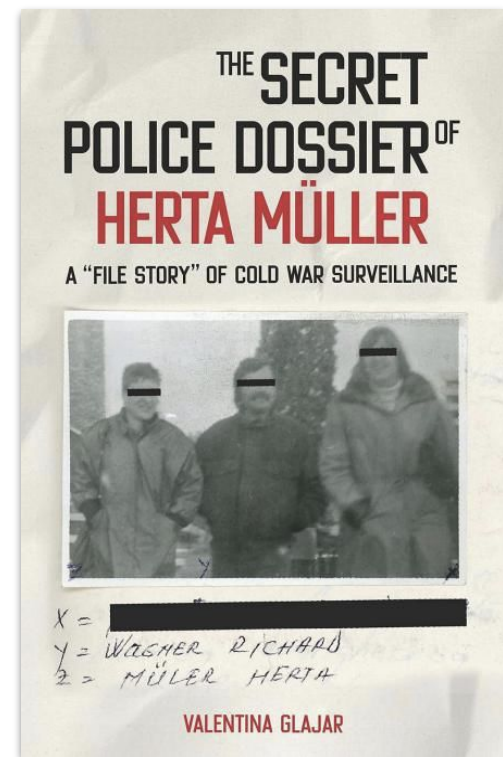
“In this six-chapter book, Mihaela Șerban offers a nuanced perspective of the manifold ways in which legal continuity and change affected the takings of homes during early communist rule in Romania. With the help of newly discovered archival documents she studied in ... Timișoara, Șerban shows that during the 1945-1965 period law was more than an instrument of violence and repression blindly used by a dictatorial regime to effect social change and unmake the pre-communist hegemony of private property. [...] A carefully researched and elegantly written analysis showing profound understanding of Romanian realities, this book is a necessary reading for all those interested to know more about the property regime, the legal culture, and the interplay between power and law in an understudied country of the former communist bloc.” **Lavinia Stan, St. Francis Xavier University**

SRS-Polirom Book Series

FORTHCOMING:

Valentina Glajar's *The Secret Police Dossier of Herta Müller: A "File Story" of Cold War Surveillance* (Rochester: Camden House, 2023) will appear in our series in 2025.

Valentina Glajar's book is an in-depth investigation of Müller's file, and engages with other related files, including that of her then-husband, the writer Richard Wagner. Glajar treats the files as primary sources in order to re-create the story of Müller's surveillance by the Securitate. In such an intrusive culture of surveillance, surviving the system often meant a certain degree of entanglement: for victims, collaborators, and implicated subjects alike. Veiled in secrecy for decades, these compelling and complex documents shed light on a boundary between victims and perpetrators as porous as the Iron Curtain itself. **(From the publisher's web page)**



"*The Secret Police Dossier of Herta Müller* shows in fine detail how the Securitate infiltrated the lives of so many people. SECU included SECU officers, SECU informers, SECU translators, and SECU targets, or "privileged targets," who were able to travel abroad, bring back books published in the West, meet with foreigners, publish their books in the West, earn royalties in foreign currency - in part because of their willingness to cooperate with SECU. Were they just another version of the "sources" who informed on them? The ambiguity of the relationships of those caught up in the SECU network is striking. It was a slippery slope on which even Müller and her husband, the writer Richard Wagner found themselves for a while." **Irina Livezeanu, University of Pittsburgh**

"The book illuminates the Romanian surveillance apparatus, revealing how targets, informers, and bystanders came to be (voluntarily or not) entangled with the Securitate, and also throws light on the complex lives of the German ethnic minority in communist Romania. The richness and interdisciplinary character of Glajar's work make it equally appealing to surveillance studies scholars, Cold War historians, and Romanian and German studies specialists. Moreover, Glajar's monograph stands out through its engaging tone, clear prose, and well-devised narrative arc. The reader often feels they are following a gripping story in which incisive, well-balanced analyses are combined with exciting details about twists and turns in the Securitate's moves and Müller's and the informers' lives and decisions. To sum up, Glajar's solid academic endeavor is an exciting read for both scholarly audiences and the general public." **Ioana Luca, National Taiwan Normal University**

Find more extensive presentations of published and forthcoming books on the [SRS website](#).

PROSPECTIVE AUTHORS:

If you plan to submit a manuscript for the **SRS-Polirom** book series, or if you have a general interest in the series, please consult the web page guidelines and contact the series editors.

New Books Network

The SRS welcomed the [New Books Network](#) (NBN) as an organisational partner in May 2022. The NBN is a network of 120 author interview podcasts focused on academic books. It currently publishes 75 new interviews every week, has published over 14,000 interviews, and it reaches approximately a million listeners a month. It has listeners in every country in the world save North Korea. NBN listeners download between three and five million interviews a month.



SRS members will be particularly interested in the [NBN Channel on Eastern European Studies](#), which is hosted by Roland Clark, Jill Massino, and Lavinia Stan, among others.

Some of the books featured since the last Newsletter include:

- Dallas Michelbacher, [Jewish Forced Labor in Romania, 1940–1944](#) (2020)
- Adriana Helbig, [ReSounding Poverty: Romani Music and Development Aid](#) (2023)
- Cristina A. Pop, [The Cancer Within: Reproduction, Cultural Transformation, and Health Care in Romania](#) (2022)
- Ramona Dima, [Queer Culture in Romania, 1920–2018](#) (2023)

The NBN is actively recruiting new hosts.

If you are interested in becoming a host, you can find more details [here](#).

CfA: H-Romania Editor



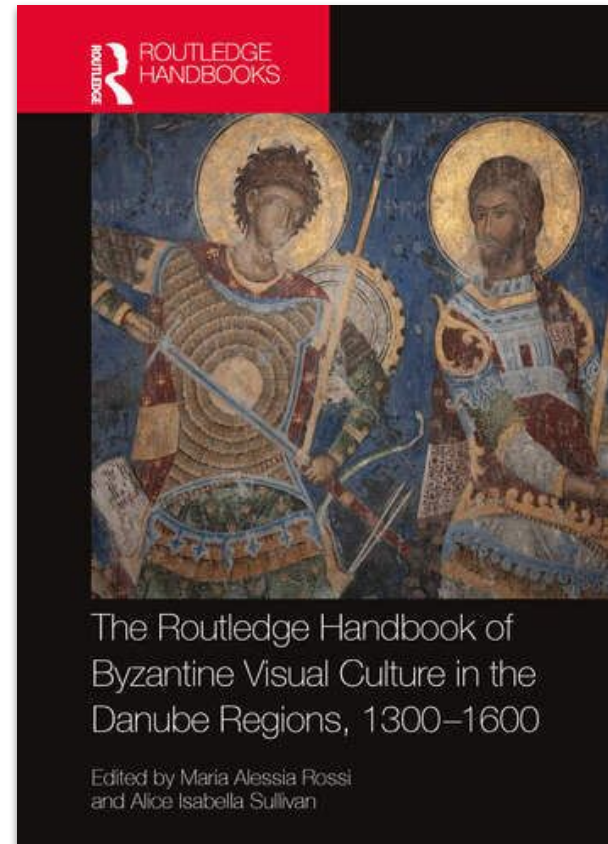
[H-Romania](#) is currently looking for a new group of editors to take over the running of the list management and book reviews. H-Romania is now in its tenth year of operation, with over 400 subscribers to the network! We publish book reviews in all social science and humanities

fields related to Romanian Studies, operate a discussion forum, host links to research and teaching resources, and disseminate various announcements and calls for papers/applications. While we are happy with our progress thus far, we still have room to grow and improve. We want to encourage SRS members to join H-Romania and publicize the network across the broad field of Romanian Studies. Please feel free to contribute postings and announcements, notify us of any recently published books and calls for papers/applications in your field, and volunteer to review books and report on conferences. And please follow us [@HNet_Romania](#) on Twitter. Please contact Chris Davis at R.Chris.Davis@LoneStar.edu if you are interested in joining the H-Romania editorial team.

Featured Books

Maria Alessia Rossi and Alice Isabella Sullivan (editors), *The Routledge Handbook of Byzantine Visual Culture in the Danube Regions, 1300-1600* (Milton Park: Routledge, 2024)

“This volume aims to broaden and nuance knowledge about the history, art, culture, and heritage of Eastern Europe relative to Byzantium. From the thirteenth century to the decades after the fall of Constantinople in 1453, the regions of the Danube River stood at the intersection of different traditions, and the river itself has served as a marker of connection and division, as well as a site of cultural contact and negotiation. It brings to light the interconnectedness of this broad geographical area too often either studied in parts or neglected altogether, emphasizing its shared history and heritage of the regions of modern Greece, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, Slovakia, and Czechia. The aim is to challenge established perceptions of what constitutes ideological and historical facets of the past, as well as Byzantine and post-Byzantine cultural and artistic production in a region of the world that has yet to establish a firm footing on the map of art history.”



New Cultural and Political Perspectives on Serbian-Romanian Relations

Edited by
Aleksandra Djurić Milovanović,
Jovana Kolundžija, Mircea Măran,
Otilia Hedeșan and Christene D'Anca

PETER LANG

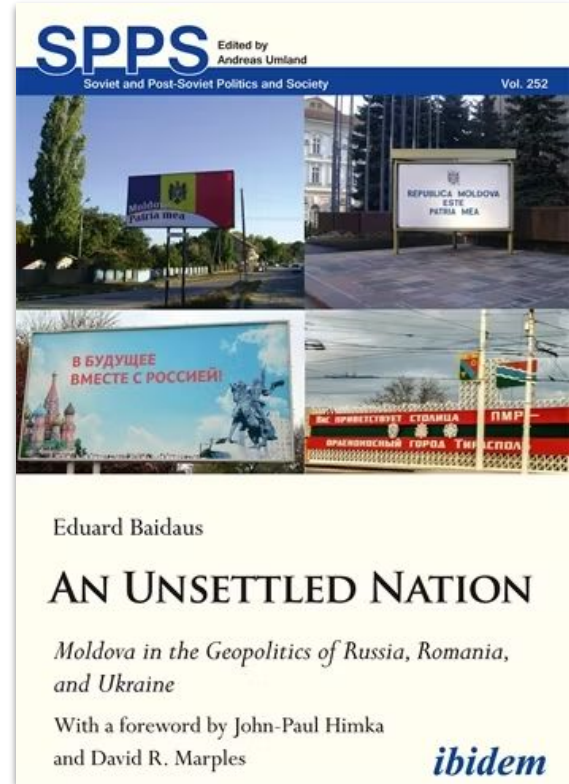
Aleksandra Djurić Milovanović, Jovana Kolundžija, Mircea Măran, Otilia Hedeșan, and Christene D'Anca (editors), *New Cultural and Political Perspectives on Serbian-Romanian Relations* (Lausanne: Peter Lang, 2024)

“Initiated by the Balkan History Association, this unique interdisciplinary volume explores the complex history of cultural, diplomatic and religious relations between Serbia and Romania during the late nineteenth and twentieth century. The authors, scholars with a wide range of academic backgrounds, address these themes in the context of Austro-Hungarian imperialism, the interwar period and the Communist era. The essays in Part I examine diplomatic, political and military relations, while those in Part II explore intellectual and artistic links between the two countries, including religion, literature and the visual arts. This is a landmark publication, the first of its kind in English, and will leave readers with a more comprehensive understanding of cultural and political relations in Southeastern Europe.”

Featured Books

Eduard Baidaus, *An Unsettled Nation: Moldova in the Geopolitics of Russia, Romania, and Ukraine* (Stuttgart: Ibidem, 2023)

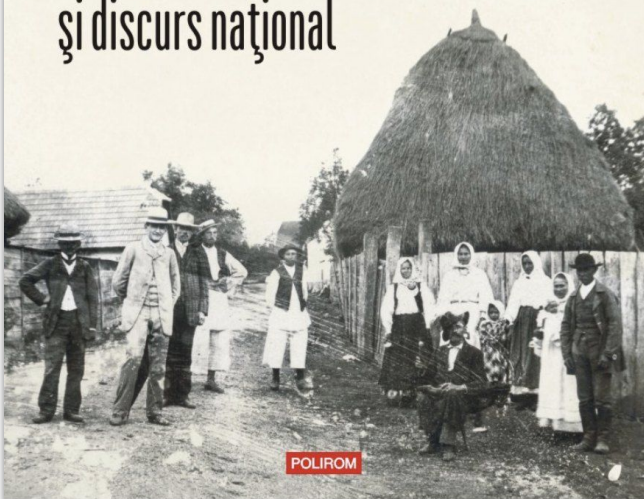
“This book investigates state-building, distorted identities, and separatism in the Republic of Moldova. At various times, this region was a former imperial Russia borderland, a province in interwar Romania, a republic in the Soviet Union, and ultimately a modern state where the interests of Moscow and the West collide. The book presents research on the historical preconditions and spread of the secessionist movement in Transnistria, the war in the Dniester River valley, and the diplomatic deadlock of the Transnistrian problem. It further examines the conflicting positions that political parties, the public, and experts have taken towards the problems that challenge the nation- and state-building processes in this post-Soviet state. [...] Moreover, domestic and external factors connected with nation-building policies often conflict with each other and hinder the development of a resolution of the so-called "frozen conflict" over Transnistria.”



Sorin Radu,
Oliver Jens Schmitt
(coordonatori)

România interbelică

Modernizare politico-instituțională și discurs național



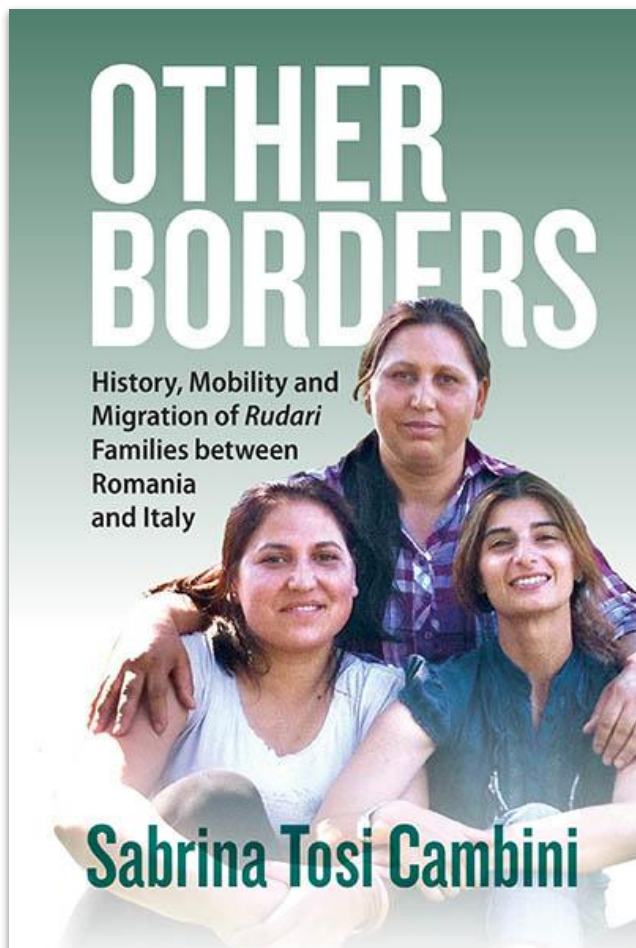
Sorin Radu, Oliver Jens Schmitt (coordonatori), *România interbelică. Modernizare politico-instituțională și discurs național* (București: Polirom, 2023)

“Volumul de față cuprinde 17 studii concentrate pe câteva dintre direcțiile esențiale menite să ofere o înțelegere cât mai complexă a României interbelice, din perspectiva politico-instituțională și a discursului național dedicat modernizării. Lucrările reflectă stadiul actual al cunoașterii, dar și noile direcții de cercetare, în special în istoria administrației, istoria tineretului, istoria politicii sociale sau perspectivele asupra relației dintre stat și biserică. Fără să pretindă că oferă un bilanț complet asupra unui domeniu de cercetare altfel bine structurat, volumul ar putea constitui mai curând punctul de plecare pentru o nouă generație de istorici care să-și îndrepte atenția către această epocă, atât de importantă pentru istoria contemporană a României: pentru că România de astăzi a fost în multe privințe fondată în perioada interbelică, când pentru prima dată majoritatea românilor au locuit într-un singur stat.”

Featured Books

Ramona Dima, *Queer Culture in Romania, 1920–2018* (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2023)

“This book is an in depth, extensive study of Romanian queer cultural products. It brings an essential contribution to the literature on Central and South Eastern European gender studies, post-communism studies, media, and cultural studies, as well as transnational queer studies. The book looks at Romanian queer culture “from inside”, and from the acknowledgment that the research process is guided by the sensitivity of the approached topics, by the lack of archival footprints, and by a solid dose of media archaeology, especially when looking at the beginning of Romanian LGBT+ activism in the 90s. The book starts from contemporary Romanian cultural products that are focusing on queer topics and/or produced by queer creators. It looks back at the memories of seminal queer and trans activists in extensive interviews conducted for this volume, and fragmented literary and media sources that cover the most part of the 20th century.”



Sabrina Tosi Cambini), *Other Borders: History, Mobility and Migration of Rudari Families Between Romania and Italy* (New York City: Berghahn, 2023)

“Rudari Lingurari families, one of many significant minority groups in Southeastern Europe, have been characterized by mobility since the end of the nineteenth century, from voluntary border crossings to deportations and forced relocations. Other Borders draws from participatory, multi-site ethnographic research to explore Rudari families' cultural and relational frames of mobility through their social and economic organization. Sabrina Tosi Cambini develops the concept of 'moving gaze' to more effectively explore Rudari migration paths across multiple countries, their occupation of unoccupied buildings in Italy, their housing practices in both Italy and Romania, and the movement of their objects, ideas and imaginaries.”



Featured Books

Bogdan Murgescu, Andrei Florin Sora, Larisa Schippel (Hg.), *Großrumänien hat gewählt. Die Parlamentswahlen von 1919 in den Regionen* (Berlin: Frank & Timme, 2024)

“1919 sind die Parlamentswahlen in Rumänien ein Ereignis. Das Staatsgebiet hat sich mit der Vereinigung nach dem Ersten Weltkrieg um ein Drittel vergrößert. Erstmals wird in allen Landesteilen gewählt. Bogdan Murgescu und Andrei Florin Sora zeichnen ein eindrucksvolles Panorama dieser Wahlen, der Bedingungen, unter denen sie stattfanden, und der Ergebnisse. Als Basis dienen ihnen Untersuchungen, die jeweils auf Kreisebene vorliegen. Sie führen all diese Studien zusammen. Die Auswertung erlaubt einen differenzierten Einblick in die zutiefst heterogenen Verhältnisse und ermöglicht Vergleiche mit anderen Regionen. In der Zusammenschau der Ergebnisse zeigt sich eindrucksvoll, wie groß der Wunsch nach Veränderung in dieser Region Europas nach der großen Katastrophe am Beginn des 20. Jahrhunderts war.”

FORUM: RUMÄNIEN



Großrumänien hat gewählt

Die Parlamentswahlen von 1919 in den Regionen

Bogdan Murgescu/Andrei Florin Sora

Frank & Timme

Anti-Axis Resistance in Southeastern Europe, 1939–1945

Forms and Varieties

Edited by John Paul Newman,
Ljubinka Škodrić & Rade Ristanović



John Paul Newman, Ljubinka Škodrić, and Rade Ristanović (editors), *Anti-Axis Resistance in Southeastern Europe, 1939-1945* (Paderborn: Brill, 2023)

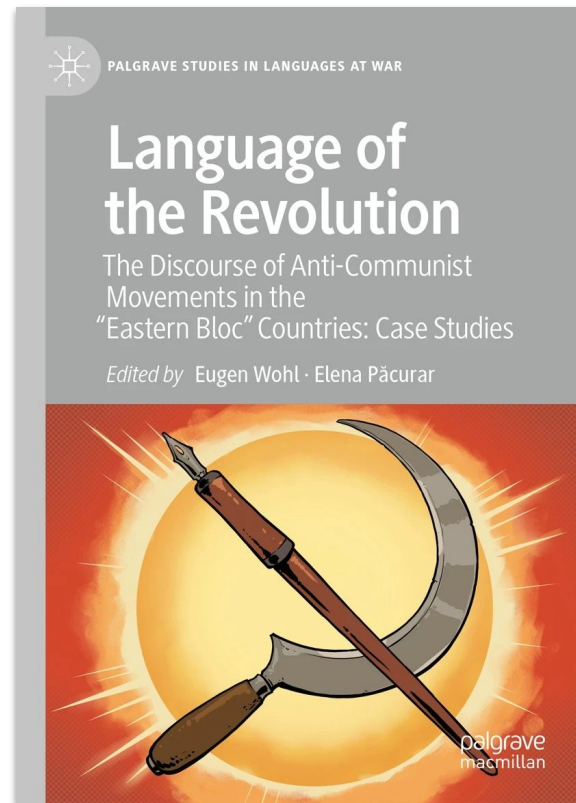
“This innovative book explores the complexities and levels of resistance amongst the populations of Southeastern Europe during the Second World War. It provides a comparative and transnational approach to the histories of different resistance movements in the region, examining the factors that contributed to their emergence and development, their military and political strategies, and the varieties of armed and unarmed resistance in the region. The authors discuss ethical choices, survival strategies, and connections across resistance movements and groups throughout Southeastern Europe. [...] The book includes contributions dealing with Albania, Bulgaria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Greece, Montenegro, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Slovenia.”

BRILL | SCHÖNINGH

Featured Books

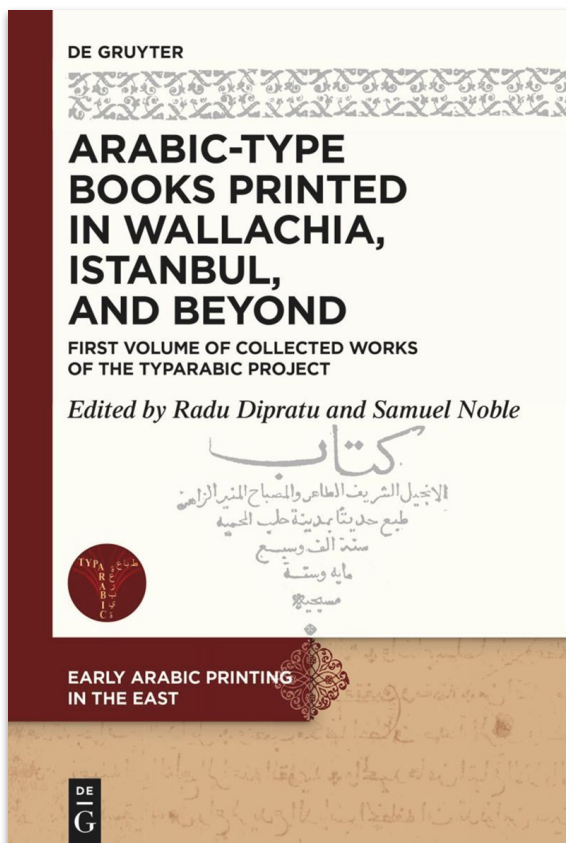
Eugen Wolh and Elena Păcurar (editors), *Language of the Revolution: The Discourse of Anti-Communist Movements in the "Eastern Bloc" Countries: Case Studies* (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2023)

"This edited book fills a void in the existing research concerning anti-communist movements in Central and Eastern Europe, outlining the linguistic implications of the cultural, social and political metamorphoses brought about by the (change of) regime. The authors included in this volume approach the topic from a variety of perspectives, but, ultimately, focus on language seen as a fundamental tool for simultaneously subjugating and liberating, concealing and revealing truth, discouraging dissidence and fostering revolt. Readers are invited to discover the linguistic implications of the many shapes and forms that the 1989 anti-communist revolutions took. Equally interesting are the investigations of the revolution aftermath, in the first years of transition to democracy. Perceived as a whole throughout the Cold War (1947-1991), the so-called 'Eastern Bloc' managed to reveal its heterogeneity, the singularity of each of its comprising states and the multitude of its internal contrasts, most vividly perhaps, in the manifold manifestations of the 1989 anti-communist fight."



Radu Dıpratu and Samuel Noble (editors), *Arabic-Type Books Printed in Wallachia, Istanbul, and Beyond* (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2024)

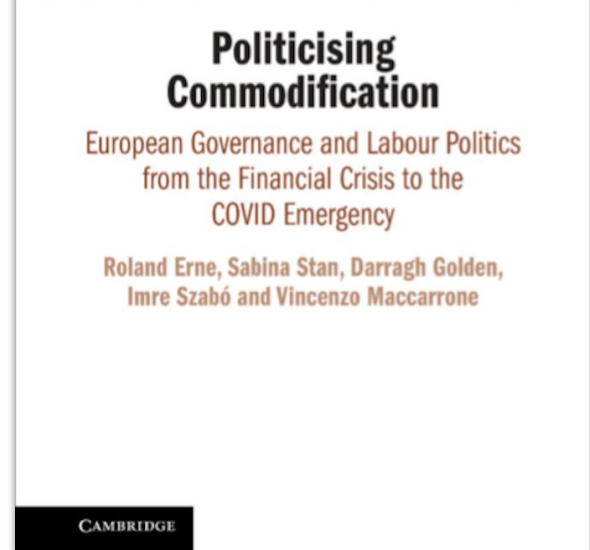
"This first volume of Collected Works of the ERC Project TYPARABIC focuses on the history of printing during the 18th century in the Ottoman Empire and the Romanian Principalities among diverse linguistic and confessional communities. The papers included in this volume are grouped in three sections. The first focuses on the first Turkish-language press in the Ottoman capital, examining the personality and background of its founder, İbrahim Müteferrika, the legal issues it faced, and its context within the multilingual Istanbul printing world. The second section brings together studies of printing and readership in Central and South-East Europe in Romanian, Greek and Arabic. The final section is made up of studies of the Arabic liturgical and biblical texts that were the main focus of Patriarch Athanasios III Dabbās' efforts in the Romanian Principalities and Aleppo."



Featured Books

Roland Erne, Sabina Stan, Darragh Golden, Imre Szabó, and Vincenzo Maccarrone (editors), *Politicising Commodification: European Governance and Labour Politics from the Financial Crisis to the Covid Emergency* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2024)

“This book examines the new economic governance (NEG) regime that the EU adopted after 2008. Its novel research design captures the supranational formulation of NEG prescriptions and their uneven deployment across countries (Germany, Italy, Ireland, Romania), policy areas (employment relations, public services), and sectors (transport, water, healthcare). NEG led to a much more vertical mode of EU integration, and its commodification agenda unleashed a plethora of union and social-movement protests, including transnationally. The book presents findings that are crucial for the prospects of European democracy, as labour politics is essential in framing the struggles about the direction of NEG along a commodification–decommodification axis rather than a national–EU axis. To shed light on corresponding processes at EU level, it upscales insights on the historical role that labour movements have played in the development of democracy and welfare states.”



Bruce O'Neill, *Underground: Dreams and Degradations in Bucharest* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2024)

“*Underground* moves beneath Romania’s capital, Bucharest, to examine how the demands of global accumulation have extended urban life not just upward into higher skylines, and outward to ever more distant peripheries, but also downward beneath city sidewalks. It details how developers and municipal officials have invested tremendous sums of money to gentrify and expand Bucharest’s constellation of subterranean Metro stations and pedestrian pathways, basements and cellars, bunkers and crypts to provide upwardly mobile residents with space to live, work, and play in an overcrowded and increasingly unaffordable city center. In this sense, the repurposed underground facilitates dreams of middle-class ascendancy. This sense of optimism, the book shows, invariably gives way to ambivalence as the middle classes confront the indignities of being incorporated into the city from below.”





Open Calls

Calls for Papers:

Archiving, Collecting, and Publishing in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries: CfP for the Summer Academy of the Herder Institute for Historical Research on East Central Europe, Institute of the Leibniz Association, August 28-30, 2024 for Early Career Researchers, Doctoral Students and Early Postdocs. We invite submissions for 10-15 Minutes Paper presentations on the topics, including, but not limited to: Publishing Houses in exile: national and transnational perspectives; The variety of émigré publishing and collecting activities and how they affect the production of knowledge on Eastern Europe during and after the Cold War; (Re)creation of national cultures in exile; Intercultural connections and collections in the diasporas; New and old diasporas' approaches to publishing and collecting: continuity or rupture?; The role of digital publishing and archiving techniques for enhancing access to émigré collections and archives. There are no participation fees. Please send your abstract (approx. 300 words) and a short CV to forum@herder-institut.de by **30 April 2024**.

Making the State. Integration Policies and Sociability in post-imperial realities: Workshop to take place in Sibiu, Romania, 20–22 November 2024. Seeking papers on the topic of societal transformations in the provinces of the territories belonging to the former Austrian-Hungarian monarchy, including: Imperial and post-imperial realities regarded from different perspectives: cultural, social, demographic, political; Projects by political and intellectual elites regarding the political integration of the urban actors and their transformation into citizens; Means of communication and negotiation between actors, either from the national or minority elite; Political leaders and discourse on minority, equal rights, self-determination of peoples and integration of the new provinces into greater Romania; How did the cultural and economic associations in Transylvania and Bucovina rethink their role in society after the Great War? What were the signs and spheres of civil society in the city?; Concepts, research methods and sources of documentation of the urban milieu; The state, center-periphery relationship, and the monopoly of “democratization of the public” in the city. Proposals in English or Romanian (title and summary of up to 300 words) can be sent to Daniela Stanciu (daniela.stanciu@ulbsibiu.ro) by **31 May 2024**.

Girlhood Studies – "Pregnant and Parenting Girls: How is Young Motherhood Experienced, Conceptualized, and Researched?": In this special issue, we aim to foster an in-depth understanding of how young motherhood among girls below the age of 20 is experienced and researched and of the impact such research has on these girls' lives in different global contexts. Abstracts are due by **17 June 2024**, and should be sent to cmv@uvic.ca Full manuscripts are due by **15 November 2024**.

Journal of Jewish Identities: The Journal of Jewish Identities is an interdisciplinary peer-reviewed forum for contesting ideas and debates concerning the formations of, and transformations in, Jewish identities in their various aspects, layers, and manifestations. The aim of this journal is to encourage the development of theory and practice in a wider spread of disciplinary approaches; to promote conceptual innovation and to provide a venue for the entry of new perspectives. Submissions are invited from all fields in the humanities and social sciences and from the full range of methodologies, on a rolling basis.

ASEEES NewsNet: NewsNet invites ASEEES (Association for Slavic, East European, & Eurasian Studies) members to submit pitches for cover articles. NewsNet publishes original essays of 2500–3000 words on contemporary issues or matters of broad professional interest to the Association's membership. If you are interested in contributing, please send abstracts of no more than 300 words, including ideas for visual illustrations, to Leah Valtin-Erwin (newsnet@pitt.edu).

Research Grants and Scholarships:

Resurse.net Best Article Prize: Resurse.net is a website that aims to provide links to useful internet resources relevant to the field of Romanian studies. As of 2024, it has launched the Resurse.net Best Article Prize, granted every year to one junior researcher in the field of history, the social sciences, or other humanities. It is intended for persons under 40 years of age. The prize will be awarded for the best article or book chapter on Romanian nationalism/fascism, 1866-1947. Applications can be submitted to contact@resurse.net every year between 1 February and 31 March. The winner will be announced before 1 May. The prize amounts to 300 EUR net.

Journal of Women's History Scholars Research Grant: The Board of Trustees of the Journal of Women's History proudly announces that applications are now open for the JWH Scholars Research Grant for scholars in transnational women's and gender history. All historians of women and gender are eligible, including those employed at universities, secondary schools, archives, libraries, museums, and parks. Priority will go to those scholars who are unaffiliated, adjunct, early career, or who lack access to research funding through their own institutions. The prize will be awarded at the AHA Conference, 3–6 January 2025, New York City, USA. Applications should be submitted to each member of the committee: Jacqueline-Bethel Tchouta Mougoué (jmougoue@wisc.edu), Katherine Marino (kmarino@history.ucla.edu) and Danielle Terrazas Williams (d.terrazaswilliams@leeds.ac.uk), by **9 April 2024**.

European Commission funding opportunities:

Migration, de-colonisation and multicultural European societies: As a way to contribute to the objectives of the EU Anti-Racism Action Plan 2020–2025, projects should explore the legacy of colonialism, inside and outside Europe, and its impact on contemporary multicultural European societies. Topics such as discrimination and racism are still linked with these experiences and play a major role in European memory throughout most of EU's societies. In line with the EU Roma Strategic Framework for equality, inclusion and participation, projects can also raise awareness of Roma history and culture as a way to contribute to strengthening multicultural European societies. Projects under this priority can also deal with common European experiences of migration that can be linked to a multitude of events such as wars, transition moments, colonisation and de-colonisation, economic impacts, persecution, or others. **Deadline: 6 June 2024, 17:00 Brussels time.**

Strengthening the remembrance of the Holocaust, genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity to reinforce democracy in the EU: Projects should focus on specific crimes such as the Holocaust, totalitarian crimes, or other 20th century crimes like genocides, war crimes, and crimes against humanity, and should analyse how these crimes were organised, which actors were involved, and how they were committed. Projects under this priority are encouraged to find new ways of remembering and educating about these crimes to protect society against resurging threats of hatred, antisemitism, racism, xenophobia, antigypsyism and LGBTIQ-phobia. Projects are encouraged to look for new teaching methods and modern forms of educating on historical events including the Holocaust. **Deadline: 6 June 2024 17:00 Brussels time.**

Summer Schools:

12th EBHA Franco Amatori Doctoral Summer School — Business History: Debates, Challenges, and Opportunities: The 12th EBHA (European Business History Association) Franco Amatori Summer School will take place in Rethymno, Crete (Greece) from 3–7 September 2024. The school aims at providing doctoral students with an overview of relevant research results and of innovative tools and methodologies in the field of Business History. It is organised jointly by the European Business History Association (EBHA) and the Institute for Mediterranean Studies of the Foundation of Research and Technology–Hellas. Those interested in attending the summer school should send the following documents by e-mail to Prof. Gelina Harlaftis (gelinaharla@gmail.com) and Dr. Alexandra Papadopoulou (aleksandrapapad@gmail.com): 1) a brief CV (not exceeding one page); 2) a summary of their dissertation project (not exceeding three pages); 3) (if possible) an example of their work in progress, e.g. a draft chapter or a working paper (in any language). The deadline for applications is **15 May 2024**.

Call for nominations:

Call for nominations for the UNESCO/Jikji Memory of the World Prize: UNESCO is now inviting nominations for the 10th edition of the UNESCO/Jikji Memory of the World Prize. Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions, are invited to submit nominations, as are the international non-governmental organizations maintaining official relations with UNESCO and whose work involves the preservation and conservation of documentary heritage, before **30 April 2024**.

Other calls:

IO BIO is seeking authors: Are you an expert on an intergovernmental organization and its executive head(s), either as a scholar or as a (former) practitioner? Are you interested in writing a short biography of an executive head? IO BIO is looking for experts willing to add to our entries: ru.nl

Women's History Today - Share Your Project/Research: Women's History Today is the journal of the Women's History Network. As well as academic articles, which we always welcome, the journal publishes short features on different aspects of doing and researching women's history. These include Spotlight on Funded Research, which showcases funded research projects; From the Archives, about using archives to explore women's history and Doing History, which highlights community/public history projects with a focus on women's and gender history. We are also always open to ideas for 'special' themed issues. If you are interested in contributing to the journal in connection with any of the above, please contact: editor@womenshistorynetwork.org

H-HistBibl is seeking to expand its editorial team by recruiting new editors to contribute and moderate content in our network. To apply: please email a single PDF containing the following to editorial-histbibl@mail.h-net.org: 1) Your CV, including current contact information; 2) A description of about 250 words explaining your areas of expertise. Before applying, please update your H-Net profile if you have not already done so.



SRS Membership

SRS uses member dues to help with monetary prizes for outstanding publications and to budget and pay for the cost of future conferences. In addition, members play a vital role in the Society by supporting our membership program, submitting manuscripts for the new scholarly Journal of Romanian Studies, proposing nominations for the prizes, and voting for officers and Board members.



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About SRS

The **Society for Romanian Studies** is an international interdisciplinary academic organization based in the US and dedicated to promoting research and critical studies on all aspects of the culture and society of the diverse peoples connected to Romania and Moldova. The SRS is generally recognized as the major professional organization for North American scholars concerned with Romania and Moldova. It is affiliated with the American Historical Association (AHA), the American Political Science Association (APSA), the Romanian Studies Association of America (RSAA), the Southeast European Studies Association (SEESA), the Balkan History Association (BHA), the PLURAL Forum for Interdisciplinary Studies, the American Romanian Coalition for Human and Equal Rights (ARCHER), the Immigration Research Forum (IRF), and the New Books Network (NBN). More information about the SRS, including current officers, the national board, and membership information, can be found on the SRS website. If you have any recent activities to report (publications, conferences organized, etc.) please email such information to the [Newsletter Editors](#).

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